

IN THE
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Robert Guido MEJIA

Confirmation No.:

Application No.: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

Filing Date: Dec 17, 2003

Group Art Unit:

Title: CONTACT PROBE STORAGE SENSOR POD

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- ☒ under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or
(Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of national application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either a:
☐ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or
☐ a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or
(After the CFR 1.97 (b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first)
- ☐ under 37 CFR 1.97 (d) together with a:
☐ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1) or (2), and
☐ a \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).
(Filed after final action, a notice of allowance, on or before payment of the issue fee)

Please charge to Deposit Account **08-2025** the sum of \$0.00. At any time during the pendency of this application, please charge any fees required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account **08-2025** pursuant to 37 CFR 1.25.

☒ Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449 - Information Disclosure Statement together with any required copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of foreign language patents, foreign language publications and other foreign language information listed on PTO Form 1449, as presently understood by the individuals(s) designated in 37 CFR 1.56 (c) most knowledgeable about the content is given on the attached sheet, or where a foreign language patent is cited in a search report or other action by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, an English language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is listed on form PTO 1449 and is enclosed herewith.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

"Express Mail" label no.

Date of Deposit

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

By _____

Typed Name:

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Guido MEJIA

By  _____

William T. Ellis

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 26,874

Date: Dec 17, 2003

The USPTO has waived the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i) to submit copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications when citing and submitting an Information Disclosure Statement in a patent application filed after June 30, 2003 and in an international application that has entered the national stage under 37 USC §371 after June 30, 2003. Accordingly, copies of these types of documents are not being supplied in connection with this application. Reference is being made to Pre-OG Notice from Office of Patent Legal Administration dated July 25, 2003, *Information Disclosure Statements May Be Filed Without Copies of U.S. Patents and Published Applications in Patent Applications filed after June 30, 2003.*

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: December 17, 2003 <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known		
				Application Number		Unassigned
				Filing Date		12/17/2003
				First Named Inventor		Robert G. Mejia
				Group Art Unit		Unassigned
				Examiner Name		Unassigned
Sheet	1	of	2	Attorney Docket Number		200310877-1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A1	5,953,306		YI	09-14-1999	
	A2	6,477,132	B1	AZUMA et al.	11-05-2002	
	A3	3,920,930		SOBCZYK	11-18-1975	
	A4	5,412,641		SHINJO et al.	05-02-1995	
	A5	6,465,782	B1	KENDALL	10-15-2002	
	A6	5,053,995		KAJIMURA et al.	10-01-1991	
	A7	6,401,526	B1	DAI et al.	06-11-2002	
	A8	5,398,299		NAKAYAMA et al.	03-14-1995	
	A9	5,751,685		YI	05-12-1998	
	A10	5,329,513		NOSE et al.	07-12-1994	
	A11	4,340,956		MILLER	07-20-1982	
	A12	6,515,957	B1	NEWNS et al.	02-04-2003	
	A13	5,610,898		TAKIMOTO et al.	03-11-1997	
	A14	5,751,683		KLEY	05-12-1998	
	A15	5,753,911		YASUDA et al.	05-19-1998	
	A16	6,072,764		SHIDO et al.	06-06-2000	
	A17	5,373,494		KAWAGISHI et al.	12-13-1994	
	A18	5,526,334		YAMANO et al.	06-11-1996	
	A19	5,371,728		SAKAI et al.	12-06-1994	
	A20	5,426,631		MIYAZAKI et al.	06-20-1995	
	A21	6,369,385	B1	MURAY et al.	04-09-2002	
	A22	5,235,187		ARNEY et al.	08-10-1993	
	A23	4,998,016		NOSE et al.	03-05-1991	
	A24	5,679,952		LUTWYCHE et al.	10-21-1997	
	A25	5,015,850		ZDEBLICK et al.	05-14-1991	
	A26	5,994,698		KAWADE et al.	11-30-1999	
	A27	4,912,822		ZDEBLICK et al.	04-03-1990	
	A28	4,998,016		NOSE et al.	03-05-1991	
	A29	5,283,437		GRESCHNER et al.	02-01-1994	
	A30	5,289,004		OKADA et al.	02-22-1994	
	A31	5,345,815		ALBRECHT et al.	09-13-1994	
	A32	5,583,286		MATSUYAMA	12-10-1996	
	A33	5,883,705		MINNE et al.	03-16-1999	
	A34	5,969,345		WILLIAMS et al.	10-19-1999	
	A35	6,337,477	B1	SHIMADA et al.	01-08-2002	
	A36	5,680,387		YAMANO et al.	10-21-1997	
	A37	5,546,374		KURODA et al.	08-13-1996	
	A38	5,537,372		ALBRECHT et al.	07-16-1996	
	A39	6,218,086	B1	BINNIG et al.	04-17-2001	
	A40	5,856,672		RIED	01-05-1999	
	A41	3,842,194		CLEMENS	10-15-1974	
	A42	4,450,550		STERZER	05-22-1984	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
--------------------	-----------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: December 17, 2003 <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	Unassigned
				Filing Date	12/17/2003
				First Named Inventor	Robert G. Mejia
				Group Art Unit	Unassigned
				Examiner Name	Unassigned
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	200310877-1

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
		U.S. Patent Document				
	A43	6,436,794	B1	LEE et al.	08-20-2002	
	A44	6,440,820	B1	LEE et al.	08-27-2002	
	A45	6,580,678	B2	KONDO et al.	06-17-2003	
	A46	5,138,174		TANG	08-11-1992	

[illegible]

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
	A47	Presentation, "02 Field-Effect Transistor (FET) principles and types.	
	A48	P. Vettiger, et al., "The Millipede – More than one thousand tips for future AFM data storage", May 3, 2000, IBM J. Res. Develop. Vol. 44:3.	
	A49	Chuck Morehouse, "Beyond Magnetic Recording – Will it be probe-based storage", IIST Workshop XVI Lake Arrowhead, October 2000, IIST WS XVI, Hewlett-Packard Laboratories.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
-----------------------	--------------------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

⁵Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.
⁶Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.